IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A playback apparatus for playing back a data file recorded in a distributed manner on an information recording medium, said playback apparatus comprising:

specification means for specifying a data file to be played back;

storage means for reading, from the information recording medium, a first part of a first table which provides a space corresponding to each of all unit recording areas of the information recording medium and storing the first part of the first table on the storage means;

generation means for generating, based on said first table recorded by said storage means, a second table in which unit recording area addresses of said information recording medium, which are used to record said data file specified by said specification means, are recorded in the forward direction;

holding means for holding said second table generated by said generation means;

determination means for determining whether or not the first part of the first table includes a next unit recording area address,

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wherein, when the first part of the first table does not include the next unit recording area address, a second part of the first table including the next unit recording area address is copied from the information recording medium, and the second part of the first table is stored on the storage means;

reading means for reading said data file from said information recording medium in accordance with said specified unit recording area addresses every time at normal playback time, fast forward playback time, and fast backward playback time; and

indication means for indicating, to said reading means, said unit recording area addresses to be read by referring to said second table held by said holding means,

wherein, during fast forward playback and fast backward playback, said indication means reads said unit recording area addresses recorded in said second table every predetermined number of the unit recording area addresses, and indicates the unit recording area addresses to said reading means.

9. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus according to Claim 8,

wherein, during normal playback, said indication means reads said unit recording area addresses, which are recorded in said second table, one-by-one in the forward direction, and indicates the unit recording area addresses to said reading means.

10. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus according to Claim 8,

wherein, during fast forward playback, said indication means reads said unit recording area addresses recorded in said second table every predetermined number of the unit

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recording area addresses in the forward direction, and indicates the unit recording area addresses

to said reading means.

      11. (Previously Presented) The playback apparatus according to Claim 8,

      wherein, during fast backward playback, said indication means reads said unit

recording area addresses recorded in said second table every predetermined number of the unit

recording area addresses in the reverse direction, and indicates the unit recording area addresses

to said reading means.

      12. (Currently Amended) A playback method for use with a playback apparatus

for playing back a data file recorded in a distributed manner on an information recording

medium, said playback method comprising:

      a specification step of specifying a data file to be played back;

      a storage step of reading, from the information recording medium, a first part of a

first table which provides a space corresponding to each of all unit recording areas of the

information recording medium and storing the first part of the first table on the storage means;

      a generation step of generating, based on said first table recorded in said storage

step, a second table in which unit recording area addresses of said information recording

medium, which are used to record said data file specified in said specification step, are recorded

in the forward direction;

      a holding step of holding said second table generated in said generation step;

a determination step of determining whether or not the first part of the first table includes a next unit recording area address,

wherein, when the first part of the first table does not include the next unit recording area address, a second part of the first table including the next unit recording area address is copied from the information recording medium, and the second part of the first table is stored;

a reading step of reading said data file from said information recording medium in accordance with said specified unit recording area addresses every time at normal playback time, fast forward playback time, and fast backward playback time; and

an indication step of indicating, to said reading step, said unit recording area addresses to be read by referring to said second table held in said holding step.

wherein, during fast forward playback and fast backward playback, said indication step reads said unit recording area addresses recorded in said second table every predetermined number of the unit recording area addresses, and indicates the unit recording area addresses to said reading step.

13. (Currently Amended) A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program for use with a playback apparatus for playing back a data file recorded in a distributed manner on an information recording medium, said program comprising:

a storage step of reading, from the information recording medium, a first part of a first table which provides a space corresponding to each of all unit recording areas of the information recording medium and storing the first part of the first table on the storage means;

a generation step of generating, based on said first table recorded in said storage step, a second table in which unit recording area addresses of said information recording medium, which are used to record said specified data file, are recorded in the forward direction;

a holding step of holding said second table generated in said generation step;

a determination step of determining whether or not the first part of the first table includes a next unit recording area address,

wherein, when the first part of the first table does not include the next unit recording area address, a second part of the first table including the next unit recording area address is copied from the information recording medium, and the second part of the first table is stored;

a reading step of reading said data file from said information recording medium in accordance with said specified unit recording area addresses every time at normal playback time, fast forward playback time, and fast backward playback time; and

an indication step of indicating, to said reading step, said unit recording area addresses to be read by referring to said second table held in said holding step,

wherein, during fast forward playback and fast backward playback, said indication step reads said unit recording area addresses recorded in said second table every predetermined number of the unit recording area addresses, and indicates the unit recording area addresses to said reading step.

14. (Canceled)